## BLM News

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Elko Field Office, 3900 East Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada 89801 (775) 753-0200

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## **BLM FALL LAND SALE PLANNED**

Five parcels comprising 648 acres of BLM-administered public lands in Elko and Lander Counties are proposed to be sold this fall. The parcels range in size from 40 acres to 250 acres.

BLM Elko Field Office began meeting with local governments more than a year ago to discuss plans for land sales. Now the BLM is seeking public comment concerning the proposed land sales. The comment period ends August 16, 2004.

"The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) provides for sale authority for public lands that are uneconomic or difficult parcels to manage," said BLM Elko Field Manager Helen Hankins. "Under FLPMA, 100 percent of the proceeds from the sale of land is deposited directly to the U.S. Treasury general fund and is not available to local field offices to use to process sale requests."

Hankins continued, "The Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act of 2000 (FLTFA), commonly known as Baca, established a funding mechanism to pay BLM's administrative costs. The lands have to have been identified in approved land use plans as of July 25, 2000. There has also been an increasing interest in selling federally managed land in Elko County."

When public land sales are conducted under FLFTA, the proceeds from the sale of public lands in Nevada mostly stay in Nevada. Four percent of the total proceeds are paid to the Nevada state school fund. Eighty percent of the remaining proceeds go to BLM Nevada for the purchase of environmentally sensitive lands, or interests in lands such as conservation easements. The other 20 percent may go in the Federal Land Disposal account for use by all states.

The Elko Field Office parcels will be sold competitively. The minimum bid will begin at the appraised fair market value. No bids lower than the appraised value will be accepted.

The sale date is scheduled for September 15, 2004, at the BLM Elko Field Office.

For questions, more information, to receive a map and/or detailed list of the parcels with legal descriptions, or to comment on the proposed sales, please contact Jason Allen by phone -

(775) 753-0235, by email – <u>Jason\_Allen@nv.blm.gov</u>, or by mail - 3900 Idaho St., Elko, NV, 89801.

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